Local Development Framework for South Kesteven


Submission Document October 2011
INTRODUCTION

The purpose of a Habitats Regulations Assessment is to enable any impacts that land-use plans will have on European Sites to be assessed. The assessment must determine whether the plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site in terms of its nature conservation objectives. Where negative effects are identified other options should be examined to avoid any potential damaging effects.

European Sites are nature conservation sites designated as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs).

HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The requirement for Assessment of plans or projects affecting Natura 2000 sites is set out in The Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC). Article 6(3) establishes the requirement for Assessment and states:

“(3) Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site’s conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.”

Article 6(4) goes on to discuss alternative solutions and compensatory measures. It states:

“(4) If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of social or economic nature, the Member State shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted.”

This Directive has been transposed into UK law as the **Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations (1994; ‘Habitats Regulations’)**. Natura 2000 sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSAC), which are designated under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), and Special Protection Areas (SPA) classified under the ‘Birds Directive’ (79/409/EEC).

Government policy in Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (PPS9) paragraph 6, extends the requirement for assessment to **Ramsar** sites. These sites support internationally important wetland habitats and are listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention, 1971), although they are not strictly part of Natura 2000.

**ACTIVITIES WITH POTENTIAL TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

It is anticipated that the following activities could have significant effects upon the integrity of the SACs/SPAs:

- on site development: loss of habitat
- development nearby: disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat, air pollution caused by increased traffic movements
- recreational activity: physical damage by trampling, noise and visual presence, by walking, driving, fishing etc, air pollution caused by increased traffic movements
- water abstraction: water levels could be affected
- livestock grazing: disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat
- agricultural activity: contamination from farming operations, including run-off into waterways.

**HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY**

There are 4 stages to the Habitats Directive Assessment process set out in the European Commission guidance “Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Nature 2000 sites – Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC” (November 2001):

**1 - Screening**

To identify the likely impacts of a plan or project (alone or in combination with others) upon a Natura 2000 site, and to consider whether these impacts are likely to be significant.
2 - Appropriate Assessment
To consider the impact of a plan or project (alone or in combination with others) on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site, with respect to the site’s structure and function and it’s conservation objectives. Where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts.

3 - Assessment of alternative solutions
To examine alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan which avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site. If, after mitigation, there will still be a negative effect on the integrity of a European site, the plan should be dropped. The only exceptions are where it can be shown that there are 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest'.

4 - Compensatory measures
To assess compensatory measures where it is decided that the plan should proceed because of overriding public interest.

If, after the screening stage, it is concluded that there will be no significant impacts, there is no need to carry out subsequent stages.

This Screening Report addresses the First Stage only of the Habitats Directive Assessment process.

SCREENING
This stage of the assessment process requires the following steps to be undertaken:

1 - Identification of sites which may be affected

2 - Analysis of sites

3 - Analysis and assessment of the plan or project

4 - Conclusion
Task 1: Identification of the Natura 2000 sites which may be affected by the Site Allocation and Policies DPD or Grantham Area Action Plan DPD.

Details of Natura 2000 sites within South Kesteven district have been obtained from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). JNCC is the statutory adviser to Government on UK and international nature conservation. It delivers the UK and international responsibilities of the four country nature conservation agencies: the Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside, the Countryside Council for Wales, Natural England and Scottish Natural Heritage.

Two Natura 2000 sites have been identified within South Kesteven district: Baston Fen and Grimsthorpe.

BASTON FEN

The SAC is part of the inland water body in the eastern, fenland area of South Kesteven, known as Baston Fen. It consists of The Counterdrain, a 2km drainage channel running alongside Baston, and is identified on the map below:
GRIMSTHORPE

The SAC is part of the Grimsthorpe Estate, in the south of the district. The site consists of Elsea Pit, a small former limestone quarry within the grounds of Grimsthorpe Park, and is identified on the maps below:
Guidance on the Appropriate Assessment of Plans suggests that, in addition to those within the district, sites should be considered for assessment if they fall within a buffer of 10-15km of a Local Authority boundary. Two Natura 2000 sites have been identified as falling within this buffer: Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar and Barnack Hills and Holes SAC.

RUTLAND WATER

Rutland Water is a large, man-made reservoir located between Stamford and Oakham in the County of Rutland to the east of South Kesteven. It is an important area for wintering wildfowl. It is identified on the map below:
BARNACK HILLS AND HOLES

Barnack Hills and Holes is an area of limestone grassland which has developed on the site of disused quarry workings. It is a small site, located approximately 4km south of Stamford and Uffington. It is identified on the map below:
**Task 2:** Analysis of the Natura 2000 sites which may be affected by the Core Strategy.

**BASTON FEN**

Baston Fen SAC consists of a 2km long main drain, the Counterdrain, which runs alongside Baston Fen. It is intensively managed by Welland and Deeping Internal Drainage Board. The drain retains a high population of **Spined loach Cobitis taenia**. The patchy cover from submerged plants provides excellent habitat for the species.

The Spined loach is a species included in Annex II of the Directive, and its presence is the primary reason for the selection of this site as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) reports that the spined loach population in Lincolnshire appears to be healthy, and does not appear to be in serious danger. However, "its apparently fragmented distribution in highly regulated rivers and drains means that it is potentially vulnerable to changes in river/land use". [Lincolnshire BAP 2005-2007]

The Baston Fen SAC falls within the type of habitat described by the Lincolnshire 2006 BAP as Rivers, Canals and Drains. Its report highlights threats to these habitats resulting from intensive use of the county’s rural landscape and the use and quality of water within individual watercourses. The BAP lists the following problems which are inherent with high maintenance drainage systems, such as the Baston Fen SAC:

- Water abstraction
- Chemical enrichment and pollution.
- Navigational and flood defence structures and impoundments.
- Climate change
- Land drainage and the management of waterways,
- Fishing and fish farming.
- Development within the floodplain.
- Loss of native fauna through swamping of introduced exotic species.

The BAP shows that the Environment Agency, together with partners including the Internal Drainage Boards, British Waterways, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and landowners, have ongoing programmes to ensure the safeguarding and management of the SAC as well as management and protection of the species.
GRIMSTHORPE

The Grimsthorpe SAC is a small part, around 0.35ha, of the park and gardens belonging to the Grimsthorpe Estate. The estate itself covers around 3,000 acres of the south Lincolnshire countryside between Bourne and Stamford. The site, known as Elsea Pit, is a small former limestone quarry, and is managed under the terms of a Manageent Agreement with English Nature.

Grimsthorpe is the most northerly outpost for early gentian *Gentianella anglica*, with 2-3 colonies totalling several hundred plants in old oolitic limestone quarries. The site is semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland, and is on the northern limit for Gentianella anglica in the UK. The JNCC reports that not all of the site is a suitable habitat for the early gentian and there is little scope for increasing its area.

The early gentian is a species included in Annex II of the Directive, and its presence is the primary reason for the selection of this site as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan records that the early gentian is endemic to the UK and occurs in only a few sites, and that it is also listed as vulnerable on the GB Red List. [://www.ukbap.org.uk].

The JNCC report that there has been a marked decline in the species. This is mainly because old chalk grasslands have been ploughed grazing has been abandoned on much of the grasslands which remain. The UK BAP agrees that the threats to the species are the loss of suitable habits and inappropriate management, especially reductions in grazing. JNCC reports that, at Grimsthorpe, there are arrangements for the erection of electric fencing around the site to enable light grazing with sheep or cattle to take place.

RUTLAND WATER

Rutland Water consists of a large man-made reservoir occupying some 1,556 ha in Rutland which is an important are for wintering wildfowl. A nature reserve occupies a narrow strip of land of some 600 acres running for 9 miles round the western end. The reserve is owned by Anglian Water and managed by the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust. The reserve is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, a Ramsar site and a European Special Protection Area.

The site is also a popular tourist attraction: fishing, walking, cycling and bird watching are among the recreational pursuits on offer. The JNCC report that the management of the site for its SPA interests is largely compatible with the recreational uses.
BARNACK HILLS AND HOLES

Barnack Hills and Holes is an area of limestone grassland which has developed on the site of disused quarry workings. The 23ha site is leased to, and managed by, Natural England. It was designated as a Special Area for Conservation in 2005 to protect the orchid-rich grassland.

The site has public access, which is controlled by the provision of gates and stiles. The management plan includes annual grazing by sheep, wardening and seasonal closures of the site. The JNCC reports that these measures control visitor pressures.

Task 3: Analysis and assessment of the plan or project.

This stage of the process is to determine whether the issues and options being assessed will have any significant effect on the Natura 2000 site.

South Kesteven District Council is preparing its Local Development Framework (LDF): a suite of documents which provide the overarching planning policy for the district. The policies within this framework will, therefore, have possible impacts on the SACs and SPA. Each of these must be assessed to determine whether they will have any significant effects upon the sites.

The Site Allocations and Policies DPD and the Grantham Area Action Plan DPD are the second and third of the LDF documents to be prepared, and it is the policies in these document that are to be assessed for impacts on the SACs and SPA.

Both DPDs have been prepared in accordance with the overarching policy framework provided by the South Kesteven Core Strategy, which was adopted on 5 July 2010. The Core Strategy provides the vision and objectives, and the spatial strategy, to guide the broad location and distribution of development across the District for the plan period up to 2026. The allocations and policies contained within both documents must be consistent with the broad framework established by the Core Strategy.

The Site Allocations and Policies DPD contains policies and allocations which locate development within the market towns of Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings and the 16 Local Service Centres identified in policy SP2 of the Core Strategy. The Grantham Area Action Plan contains policies and allocations to guide development within the town of Grantham.

All policies and allocations must be in conformity with policies within the Core Strategy. The overarching framework for development within the district is provided by the Spatial Strategy (SP1) and the Sustainable Communities Policy (SP2). These set out the locational strategy to be adopted when allocating land for development and when
considering development proposals. In all cases, priority will be given to previously developed land, although development will be permitted on appropriate greenfield sites. Development in village and rural locations is restricted.

The focus of new development will be in Grantham, to support and strengthen its role as a Sub-Regional Centre. These policies allow for growth to maintain and support the market towns of Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings, as well as the larger villages, including those settlements which have been identified as Local Service Centres. Development in rural areas is directed to those settlements where localised service use is already strong, to ensure that they remain sustainable.

This approach will be used to assess all development proposals, whether residential, employment, retail, leisure and other uses.

In broad terms, therefore, it can be seen that development is unlikely to occur in the areas of Baston Fen and the Grimsthorpe SACs. Water abstraction has been highlighted as a possible threat to sites such as Baston Fen. However, this site is intensively managed by the Welland and Deeping Internal Drainage Board, and it is expected that, should development in other areas pose a threat to the site, mitigation measures would be demanded.

The housing figures are derived directly from the East Midlands Regional Plan (RSS) which has undergone HRA. They have been deemed acceptable, subject to certain safeguards. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that the planned levels of development can be accommodated without affecting Rutland Water SPA. The HA of the RSS also concluded that, whilst recreation pressure on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC is an issue, this is unlikely to be increased by development within the East Midlands area. On-site management measures are in place to keep damage under control.

In addition to the LDF, the following documents provide policy relevant to the South Kesteven district:

- East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy (2005)
- East Midlands Regional Plan (Regional Spatial Strategy)
- Lincolnshire Waste Local Plan
- Lincolnshire Minerals Local Plan
- Lincolnshire Transport Plan

The key points from these policies can be summed up as follows:

**Environmental:** to protect, maintain and enhance the natural environment, with particular attention to designated sites at regional, national and international level. The importance of maintaining and enhancing the biodiversity of the area is highlighted.
The environmental policies all seek to reduce the impact on the countryside and the environment generally, through policies which:

- protect the best agricultural land
- prioritise the use of brownfield land
- reduce harmful emissions and improve local air quality
- minimise the disposal of waste by landfill
- making efficient use of existing infrastructure
- seek to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases
- maintain and improve public open space
- protect trees and woodland
- have regard to the character and distinctiveness of the landscape

These documents stress the importance of minimising environmental loss that could occur through development proposals and of ensuring that any development is compatible with the interests of rural conservation.

The potential of, and the need to promote, renewable energy is also highlighted in these documents. These emphasise the need to consider carefully proposals for the siting and construction of windfarms and other methods of producing renewable energy.

**Economic:** to support the local economy and maintain the vitality and viability of the town centres. Support for rural diversification schemes is also emphasised.

A major concern is to minimise the environmental impacts of any industrial and commercial development, although these can only be assessed on a site by site basis.

**Social:** to improve social well-being by improving the quality of life for all residents. The main points arising from these policies are:

- housing (market and affordable) to be high quality and range of sizes
- encourage walking, cycling and public transport
- reduce the need to travel
- maintain and improve public open space and recreation provision

The need to ensure that development does not cause harm to the environment is a central tenet of all current policies, although this has to be balanced with the need to provide housing and employment opportunities for the resident population.
Task 4: Conclusions.

The Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Core Strategy identified the European Sites which may potentially be affected by its policies. It concluded that the Core Strategy policies are not likely to have any significant effects on any Natura 2000 site.

The Policies contained within the South Kesteven District Council Site Allocations and Policies DPD and Grantham Area Action Plan have been assessed, in accordance with the Habitats Directive, to determine whether there are likely to be any significant impacts arising from them on the European sites.

With the exception of policy SAP2 of the Site Allocations and Policies DPD, the policies within both the Site Allocations and Policies DPD and the Grantham Area Action Plan DPD follow the locational strategy for the District set out in the Core Strategy. Consequently, the assessment found that these policies are unlikely to have significant impacts on the European Sites. Policy SAP2 is an exceptions policy which aims to enable the provision of affordable housing in areas of proven need. These areas will, of necessity, be outside the locational framework established in the Core Strategy. The policy criteria, however, do not allow for development to be located in areas which would affect European sites.

This assessment concludes that the policies within the South Kesteven Site Allocations and Policies DPD and Grantham Area Action Plan DPD are not likely to have any significant effects on any Natura 2000 site. There is, therefore, no requirement to proceed to the next stage of an Appropriate Assessment.
APPENDIX 1: NATURA 2000 SITES WITHIN SOUTH KESTEVEN

SITE NAME: BASTON FEN

Designation: Special Area of Conservation (SAC), (also part of SSSI)
Code: UK0030085
Location: Drainage channel adjacent to Baston Fen.
Grid ref: TL 136171
Latitude: 52°44'21" N
Longitude: 0°01'90" W
Area: 2.2 ha

General Site characteristics
Inland water body (standing water, running water) (100%)
Soil and geology: Alluvium, Clay, Neutral
Geomorphology and landscape: Floodplain, Lowland

Primary reason for selection of the site
The presence of the Spined loach *Cobitis taenia*, a species appearing in Annex II of the Habitats Directive.

Species
Spined loach *Cobitis taenia* is a small bottom-living fish that has a restricted microhabitat associated with a specialised feeding mechanism. They use a complex branchial apparatus to filter-feed in fine but well-oxygenated sediments. Optimal habitat is patchy cover of submerged (and possibly emergent) macrophytes, which are important for spawning, and a sandy (also silty) substrate, into which juvenile fish tend to bury themselves.

The Spined loach *Cobitis taenia* has an extremely wide distribution across Europe and Asia. Even with such a broad range and ecological niche it is generally regarded as threatened, if not rare, in Europe.

In the UK, Spined loach *Cobitis taenia* appears to be restricted to just five east-flowing river systems in eastern England: the rivers Trent, Welland, Witham, Nene and Great Ouse, with their associated waterways (Perrow & Jowitt 2000). Within these catchments it appears to occur patchily in a variety of waterbodies, including small streams, large rivers and both large and small drainage ditches. Little is known about its occurrence in open water, although it is known from a number of small lakes and gravel-pits. With limited means of dispersal, the UK populations are largely genetically isolated from each other.

Site Description
The Baston Fen SAC is a 2km long drainage channel, The Counterdrain, running alongside Baston Fen. It contains high densities of Spined loach *Cobitis taenia*, and
is an example of spined loach populations in the Welland catchment. The patchy cover from submerge plants provides excellent habitat for the species.

**Vulnerability**
Baston Fen SAC is intensively managed by Welland and Deeping Internal Drainage Board. The drain retains a high population of spined loach and a rich aquatic flora but the effects of drain management on the European interest are presently unknown and require further investigation.

The Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (2005-2007) records that the population of Spined loach in Lincolnshire appears to be healthy, data having been collected for the past 20 years from routine fish surveys, although it is not possible to quantify the populations. The fish are found only in a few locations. While it does not appear to be in serious danger, it is this fragmented distribution in highly regulated rivers and drains which means that it is potentially vulnerable to changes in river/land use.

**SITE NAME: GRIMSTHORPE**

**Designation:** Special Area of Conservation (SAC), (also part of SSSI)

**Code:** UK0030043

**Location:** Former limestone quarry within the grounds of Grimsthorpe Park.

**Grid ref:** TL 033205

**Latitude:** 52°46.19’ N

**Longitude:** 0°02.80’ W

**Area:** 0.35 ha

**General Site characteristics**
Dry Grassland. Steppes (85/7%)
Inland rocks. Screes. Sands. Permanent snow and ice (14.3%)
Soil and geology: Basic, Limestone, Sedimentary
Geomorphology and landscape: Lowland

**Primary reason for selection of the site**
The presence of *Early gentian Gentianella anglica*, a species appearing in Annex II of the Habitats Directive.

**Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of site**
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*)

**Species**
*Early gentian Gentianella anglica* is an annual plant, which occurs in calcareous grassland, mainly on steep, south-facing slopes. It grows on bare ground or in thin
turf that is kept open by a combination of rabbit or sheep-grazing and trampling by livestock on thin droughted soils. In dense turf it becomes shaded out and unable to compete with other more vigorous species. It is found on a variety of substrates and in different habitats, but is particularly frequent in coastal grasslands. At most of its localities the vegetation is semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia).

*Gentianella anglica* shows considerable phenotypic plasticity, influenced by such factors as management and germination time. The occurrence of what was believed to be probably the hybrid between *G. anglica* and autumn gentian *Gentianella amarella*, *G. x davidiana*, prompted a taxonomic reassessment of *G. anglica* throughout its British range. Ecological monitoring and genetic investigation of *G. anglica* populations began in 1998. Initial results of this research appear to question the validity of maintaining *G. anglica* as a separate species from the more widespread *G. amarella* (Winfield & Parker 2000). However, the Habitats Directive continues to recognise *G. anglica* as a separate taxon.

**Site Description**

The site consists of Elsea Pit, a small former limestone quarry within the grounds of Grimsthorpe Park. The old oolitic limestone quarries contain 2-3 of colonies totalling several hundred *early gentian Gentianella anglica* plants.

**Vulnerability**

The site is the most northerly outpost for *early gentian Gentianella anglica*. It is on the northern limit for the species in the UK, but not all of the site provides suitable conditions and there is little scope for increasing the area of suitable habitat here. As with other biennials, numbers of *G. anglica* vary dramatically from year to year, the highest recorded number being 400 individuals.

There has been a marked decline in *G. anglica* since 1970, largely because of the ploughing of old chalk grassland, and the abandonment of grazing on some of the remaining grasslands.

The entire parkland, including Elsea Pit, is managed under the terms of a Management Agreement with Natural England. Arrangements are in hand to enable the erection of electric fencing around the site so that it will be possible for light grazing with sheep or cattle to take place.

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Information sources:
Joint Nature Conservation committee www.jncc.gov.uk
Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan
APPENDIX 1A: NATURA 2000 SITES OUTSIDE SOUTH KESTEVEN

SITE NAME: RUTLAND WATER

Designation: Special Protection Area (SPA), (also Ramsar)
Code: UK9008051
Location: Reservoir between Oakham and Stamford.
Latitude: 523852 N
Longitude: 003954 W
Area: 1556.87 ha

General Site characteristics
Inland water body (standing water, running water) (80%)
Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (0.1%)
Dry grassland, Steppes (9.9%)
Mixed woodland (10%)
Soil and geology: Clay, Mud, Neutral, Nutrient-rich, Sedimentary
Geomorphology and landscape: Lowland, Valley

Qualifying features
Qualifies under Article 4.2 by supporting populations of European importance of the following migratory species:

Over winter:
- Gadwall Anas strepera
- Shoveler Anas clypeata

Qualifies under Article 4.2 by regularly supporting at least 20,000 waterfowl.

Ramsar criterion 5 - Assemblages of international importance.
Species with peak counts in winter:

Ramsar Criterion 6 - Species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.
Qualifying Species:
- Gadwall Anas strepera
- Northern shoveler Anas clypeata

Site Description
Large, man-made reservoir in Rutland which is an important area for wintering wildfowl. Nature reserve occupies narrow strip of land amounting to 600 acres and running for 9 miles round the western end of Rutland Water.

Vulnerability
The SPA is vulnerable to pressures from recreation, nutrient inputs, and changes in water level. The site is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the East.
Midlands. Fishing, walking water sports and cycling currently take place and the reservoir has been zoned to allow this to take place. Management of the site for its SPA interests is currently compatible with these recreation uses except in periods of drawdown. A revised strategy with Anglian Water Supplies (AWS) is intended to address this problem.

The reservoir is filled from the River Nene and the River Welland. In the past phosphate levels have led to algal blooms. Although these have currently had little visible effects on the wildfowl, continued eutrophication could lead to an algal dominated system that may reduce the value of the area for both plant feeding and invertebrate feeding wildfowl. Phosphate inputs are being tackled through implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive in the Nene catchment which contributes the major phosphate load to the reservoir. If necessary, monitoring will be introduced to show if the reduction in phosphate level is adequate and to investigate the contribution of agricultural sources to this problem.

Rutland water is a major source of urban water supply. Increased abstraction in the summer up to the current licensed limit may cause further and more extensive periods of drawdown which can effect populations of invertebrates on which some species depend, whilst rapid filling can render other food sources unavailable for dabbling ducks. Drawdown may also increase disturbance through recreation uses. These issues will be tackled through discussions with AWS and the Environment Agency.

**SITE NAME: BARNACK HILLS AND HOLES SAC**

**Designation:** Special Area of Conservation (SPA)  
**Code:** UK0030031  
**Location:** Immediately west and south of Barnack village, Cambs.  
**Latitude:** 52.3740 N  
**Longitude:** 002.441 W  
**Area:** 23.27 ha

**General Site characteristics**  
Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (15 %)  
Dry grassland. Steppes (79.5 %)  
Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (5.5 %)

**Qualifying features**  
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies; on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (important orchid sites)
Site Description
Small, disused limestone quarry on the outskirts of Barnack village. Access on foot only. Circular limestone walk through reserve.

Vulnerability
The site is leased to, and managed by, Natural England. A management plan is in place. The site is grazed annually by sheep in association with a programme of scrub control to maintain appropriate habitat conditions for grassland flora and fauna. There is public access to the site and a public footpath crosses the southern half. Access is controlled by the provision of grates and stiles. There is high visitor pressure that is controlled by warden, losing parts of the reserve seasonally, education and interpretation.

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Information sources:
Joint Nature Conservation committee www.jncc.gove.uk
Habitats Assessment (RSS Partial Review 2009)
## APPENDIX 2: SAC SITE ASSESSMENT MATRIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and location of site</th>
<th>Baston Fen Special Area of Conservation Counterdrain adjacent to Baston Fen in the fenland area of South Kesteven</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reasons for selection</td>
<td>presence of <strong>Spined loach</strong> <em>Cobitis taenia</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plans or programmes which may affect site</td>
<td>None of the policies within the Site Allocation and Policies DPD or Grantham Area Action Plan DPD will directly affect the site.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Impact</th>
<th>How Site Allocation and Policies DPD or Grantham Area Action Plan DPD (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect SAC</th>
<th>Why these effects are not considered significant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>On site development</strong> - leading to loss of habitat</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Development nearby</strong> - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat and air pollution caused by increased traffic movements</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include land in the vicinity of any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational activity</strong> - causing physical damage by trampling. Disturbance by noise and visual presence caused by walking, driving, fishing etc. Air pollution caused by increased traffic movements</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water abstraction</strong> - could cause water levels to be affected</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Livestock grazing</strong> - leading to disturbance to,</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading to disturbance to, leading to disturbance to,</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
and possible loss of, habitat | plan) which will include any part of the SAC | plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC
\hline
**Agricultural activity** - possible contamination from farming operations, including run-off into waterways | No new development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC | There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC. The site is already managed by the Welland and Deepings IDB.
\hline
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and location of site</th>
<th><strong>Grimsthorpe Special Area of Conservation</strong> former limestone quarry within the grounds of Grimsthorpe Park in the south of South Kesteven</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reasons for selection</strong></td>
<td>presence of <em>Early gentian</em> <em>Gentianella anglica</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plans or programmes which may affect site</strong></td>
<td>None of the policies within the Core Strategy will directly affect the site.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Impact</th>
<th>How Site Allocation and Policies DPD or Grantham Area Action Plan DPD (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect SAC</th>
<th>Why these effects are not considered significant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>On site development</strong> - leading to loss of habitat</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Development nearby</strong> - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat and air pollution caused by increased traffic movements</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include land in the vicinity of any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Recreational activity** - causing physical damage by trampling. Disturbance by noise and visual presence caused | No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC | There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC. Grimsthorpe is a

Grimsthorpe is a

Grimsthorpe is a
by walking, driving, fishing etc. Air pollution caused by increased traffic movements.  

| **Water abstraction** - could cause water levels to be affected | No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC | There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC. |
| **Livestock grazing** - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat | No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC | There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC. As part of the Management Agreement with English Nature electric fencing around the site enables light grazing with sheep or cattle to occur. |
| **Agricultural activity** - possible contamination from farming operations | No new development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC | There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC. |

**Overall conclusions**

The Site Allocation and Policies DPD and Grantham Area Action Plan DPD, alone and in combination with other plans and programmes, have been assessed for their impact on the Baston Fen and Grimsthorpe SACs, and it has been concluded that there are no likely significant effects on the conservation objectives of the sites.
### APPENDIX 2A: SPA SITE ASSESSMENT MATRIX

| Name and location of site | Rutland Water Special Protection Area  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Reservoir between Stamford and Oakham to the east of South Kesteven</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reasons for selection</td>
<td>wintering populations of wildfowl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plans or programmes which may affect site</td>
<td>None of the policies within the Site Allocation and Policies DPD or Grantham Area Action Plan DPD will directly affect the site.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Impact</th>
<th>How Site Allocation and Policies DPD and Grantham Area Action Plan DPD (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect SPA</th>
<th>Why these effects are not considered significant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On site development - leading to loss of habitat</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SPA</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development nearby - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat and air pollution caused by increased traffic movements</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include land in the vicinity of any part of the SPA</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational activity - causing physical damage by trampling. Disturbance by noise and visual presence caused by walking, driving, fishing etc. Air pollution caused by increased traffic movements</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SPA</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water abstraction - could cause water levels to be affected</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SPA</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock grazing - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of,</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SPA</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Overall conclusion

The Site Allocation and Policies DPD and Grantham Area Action Plan DPD, alone and in combination with other plans and programmes, have been assessed for their impact on the [Rutland Water SPA](#), and it has been concluded that there are no likely significant effects on the conservation objectives of the site.

---

| Name and location of site | Barnack Hill and Holes Special Area of Conservation  
Disused limestone quarry on the outskirts of Barnack |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reasons for selection</td>
<td>semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrate (important orchid site)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plans or programmes which may affect site</td>
<td>None of the policies within the Site Allocation and Policies DPD or Grantham Area Action Plan DPD will directly affect the site.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential Impact</th>
<th>How Site Allocation and Policies DPD and Grantham Area Action Plan DPD (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect SPA</th>
<th>Why these effects are not considered significant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On site development - leading to loss of habitat</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Development nearby</strong> - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat and air pollution caused by increased traffic movements</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include land in the vicinity of any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational activity</strong> - causing physical damage by trampling. Disturbance by noise and visual presence caused by walking, driving, fishing etc. Air pollution caused by increased traffic movements</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water abstraction</strong> - could cause water levels to be affected</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Livestock grazing</strong> - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat</td>
<td>No development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agricultural activity</strong> - possible contamination from farming operations, including run-off into waterways</td>
<td>No new development is proposed in the DPDs (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC</td>
<td>There are no policies in the DPDs (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC. The Nature Reserve is already managed by Natural England.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overall conclusion**

The Site Allocation and Policies DPD and Grantham Area Action Plan DPD, alone and in combination with other plans and programmes, have been assessed for their impact on the **Barnack Hills and Holes SAC**, and it has been concluded that there are no likely significant effects on the conservation objectives of the site.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Strategy Policy SP1: Spatial Strategy</th>
<th>Baston Fen SAC</th>
<th>Grimsthorpe SAC</th>
<th>Rutland Water SPA</th>
<th>Barnack Hills and Holes SAC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAP H1 Housing</td>
<td>This policy locates development in the towns and main villages of the district, as such it should discourage development which may have an impact upon Baston Fen. Development is not envisaged in the open countryside. The nearest LSC to the SAC is Baston. The River Glen does not pass through or near to any settlements where development on a significant scale is envisaged. Development adjacent to the River Glen will need to demonstrate that discharge or run-off will not affect the quality of the river. An additional paragraph has been added to the text of the Core Strategy establishing that development in the area around the SAC will be unacceptable. We believe the policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy locates development in the towns and main villages of the district. The policy discourages development in the countryside. There will not, therefore, be any effect upon the SAC. An additional paragraph has been added to the text of the Core Strategy establishing that development in the area around the SAC will be unacceptable. We believe the policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>The housing figures within the Core Strategy are derived directly from the East Midlands Regional Plan, which has undergone HRA. These figures have been deemed acceptable, subject to certain safeguards relating to water resource provision and water quality. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated.</td>
<td>Developing additional housing in Stamford, which is approximately 4km away from Barnack Hills and Holes SAC, may potentially lead to increased recreational pressure on the site. However, it is a relatively small site, which is unlikely to attract visitors from afar and is directly adjacent to the settlement of Barnack. Visitor pressure from dog walkers and others who live adjacent to the site is likely to be much more significant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STM1 Housing land in Stamford</td>
<td>This policy allows for development on brownfield and small infill sites within the market towns and 16 LSCs. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from any settlements. Although surface water drainage from Baston and Langtoft LSCs and Deepings is towards the SAC, policy criteria and incorporation of appropriate management systems will ensure that the policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allows for development on brownfield and small infill sites within the market towns and 16 LSCs. Grimsthorpe is not located near any LSC. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allows for development on brownfield and small infill sites within the market towns and 16 LSCs. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</td>
<td>This policy allows for development on brownfield and small infill sites within the market towns and 16 LSCs. There may be pressure on the site from Stamford (approx 4km away) but the size of development proposed make this unlikely. Visitor pressure from dog walkers and others who live adjacent to the site is likely to be much more significant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STM2 Employment land in Stamford</td>
<td>This policy allocates land for housing in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates land for housing in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates land for employment use in Stamford. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</td>
<td>Developing additional housing in Stamford, which is approximately 4km away from Barnack Hills and Holes SAC, may potentially lead to increased recreational pressure on the site. However, it is a relatively small site, which is unlikely to attract visitors from afar and is directly adjacent to the settlement of Barnack. Visitor pressure from dog walkers and others who live adjacent to the site is likely to be much more significant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMT3 Mixed use urban extension in Stamford</td>
<td>This policy identifies an urban extension site in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy identifies an urban extension site in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy identifies an urban extension site in Stamford. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</td>
<td>Developing additional housing in Stamford, which is approximately 4km away from Barnack Hills and Holes SAC, may potentially lead to increased recreational pressure on the site. However, it is a relatively small site, which is unlikely to attract visitors from afar and is directly adjacent to the settlement of Barnack. Visitor pressure from dog walkers and others who live adjacent to the site is likely to be much more significant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1 Employment land in Bourne</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. The SAC is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. The SPA is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SPA.</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. The SAC is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE1 Housing land in Deepings</td>
<td>This policy allocates housing land in Deepings. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Deepings. Although surface water drainage is towards the SAC, policy criteria and incorporation of appropriate management systems will ensure that the policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates housing land in Deepings. The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates land for housing in Deepings. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</td>
<td>This policy allocates housing land in Deepings. The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Framework ID</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Baston Fen SAC</td>
<td>Grimsthorpe SAC</td>
<td>Rutland Water SPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE2</td>
<td>Employment land in Deepings</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Deepings. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Deepings. Although surface water drainage is towards the SAC, policy criteria and incorporation of appropriate management systems will ensure that the policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Deepings. The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Deepings. The SPA is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE3</td>
<td>Mixed use urban extension in Market Deepings</td>
<td>This policy allocates an urban extension site in Deepings. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Deepings. Although surface water drainage is towards the SAC, policy criteria and incorporation of appropriate management systems will ensure that the policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy identifies an urban extension site in Deepings. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</td>
<td>This policy identifies an urban extension site in Deepings. The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSC1</td>
<td>Housing land in LSCs</td>
<td>This policy allocates land for housing within 6 named LSCs. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside outside the village. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates land for housing within 6 named LSCs, none of which is near the SAC. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates land for housing within 6 named LSCs. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP1</td>
<td>Criteria for change of use of community facilities</td>
<td>This policy supports retention of, and presumes against loss of, community facilities in LSCs. Although Baston has been identified as a LSC, Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside outside the village. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy supports retention of, and presumes against loss of, community facilities in LSCs. Grimsthorpe SAC is not located near to any LSC. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy supports retention of, and presumes against loss of, community facilities in LSCs. Rutland Water SPA is not located near to any LSC. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP2</td>
<td>Rural Exceptions Affordable Housing</td>
<td>This is an exceptions policy which aims to provide affordable housing in areas of proven need. No need has been identified in Truesdale Ward (which contains the SAC) and policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.</td>
<td>This is an exceptions policy which aims to provide affordable housing in areas of proven need. The policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.</td>
<td>This is an exceptions policy which aims to provide affordable housing in areas of proven need. The policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP3</td>
<td>Supporting Local Business in Local Service Centres</td>
<td>This policy supports the expansion of new, and the creation of new, employment opportunities in LSCs. Although Baston has been identified as a LSC, Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside outside the village. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy supports the expansion of existing, and the creation of new, employment opportunities in LSCs. Grimsthorpe SAC is not located near any LSC. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy supports the expansion of existing, and the creation of new, employment opportunities in LSCs. Rutland Water SPA is not located near any LSC. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP4</td>
<td>Business Development in the Countrywide (including rural diversification schemes)</td>
<td>This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes which will regenerate the rural economy. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.</td>
<td>This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes which will regenerate the rural economy. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.</td>
<td>This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes which will regenerate the rural economy. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP5</td>
<td>Locally Important Existing Employment Sites</td>
<td>These are existing sites within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>These are existing sites within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>These are existing sites within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP6</td>
<td>Employment land at Gonerby Moor</td>
<td>Gonerby Moor is located near to Grantham. There will be no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>Gonerby Moor is located near to Grantham. There will be no impact on the SPA.</td>
<td>Gonerby Moor is located near to Grantham. There will be no impact on the SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP7</td>
<td>Development within the defined Town Centres</td>
<td>The defined town centres are within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>The defined town centres are within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>The defined town centres are within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP8</td>
<td>Town Centre Opportunity Areas</td>
<td>The defined town centres are within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>The defined town centres are within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>The defined town centres are within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP9</td>
<td>Bourne Core Area</td>
<td>This policy relates to a defined town centre area. There will be no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to a defined town centre area. There will be no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to a defined town centre area. There will be no impact on the SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP10</td>
<td>Open Space Provision</td>
<td>This policy sets out standards to be applied to open space provision as a result of development. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy sets out standards to be applied to open space provision as a result of development. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy sets out standards to be applied to open space provision as a result of development. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOV1</td>
<td>Movement and Accessibility</td>
<td>This policy encourages the creation of a sustainable, modern transport network across Grantham. It promotes development located in areas which are accessible by means other than the use of private car including public transport, cycling and walking. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Grantham. This policy approach will have no impact on the Baston Fen SAC.</td>
<td>This policy promotes sustainable transport networks other than the use of private car. This policy will have no spatial impact on Rutland Water SPA. The SPA is not sited within the District and is some distance from Grantham.</td>
<td>This policy promotes sustainable transport networks other than the use of private car. This policy will have no impact on the Barnack Hills and Holes SAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GI1</td>
<td>Green Infrastructure Provision</td>
<td>This policy promotes development of new, and enhancement of existing, green spaces. This policy will impact positively on biodiversity conservation. Aston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Grantham. This policy will have no impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy promotes development of new and enhancement of existing green spaces. This policy will impact positively on biodiversity conservation. Rutland Water SPA is sited outside the district. This policy approach will have no negative impacts on the Rutland Water SPA.</td>
<td>This policy promotes development of new and enhancement of existing green spaces. This policy will impact positively on biodiversity conservation. Rutland Water SPA is sited outside the district. This policy approach will have no negative impacts on the Rutland Water SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RT1</td>
<td>Improving Town Centre Retail Offer</td>
<td>This policy identifies areas which are considered appropriate to increase or improve retail offer within the town centre. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy identifies areas which are considered appropriate to increase or improve retail offer within the town centre. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy identifies areas which are considered appropriate to increase or improve retail offer within the town centre. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOC1</td>
<td>Town Centre Uses</td>
<td>This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. This will be no impact on the Baston Fen SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. There will be no impact on the Granthorpe SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. There will be no impact on the Granthorpe SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA1</td>
<td>Station Approach</td>
<td>This policy provides a framework for redevelopment of brownfield site for mix uses including new homes, employment and commercial floorspace and car parking, and to serve as a gateway to the Town Centre. This will help to reduce the impacts on biodiversity. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under the Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy provides a framework for redevelopment of brownfield site for mix uses including new homes, employment and commercial floorspace and car parking, and to serve as a gateway to the Town Centre. This will help to reduce the impacts on biodiversity. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under the Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy provides a framework for redevelopment of brownfield site for mix uses including new homes, employment and commercial floorspace and car parking, and to serve as a gateway to the Town Centre. This will help to reduce the impacts on biodiversity. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under the Spatial Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WP1</td>
<td>Wharf Place</td>
<td>This policy relates to redevelopment of a key regeneration site within the Town Centre to provide for retail, leisure and new homes. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy relates to redevelopment of a key regeneration site within the Town Centre to provide for retail, leisure and new homes. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>GF1</td>
<td>Greyfriars</td>
<td>This policy relates to redevelopment of a key regeneration site within the Town Centre to provide for retail, leisure and new homes. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy relates to redevelopment of a key regeneration site within the Town Centre to provide for retail, leisure and new homes. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy relates to redevelopment of a key regeneration site within the Town Centre to provide for retail, leisure and new homes. There will be no impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CB</td>
<td>Canal Basin</td>
<td>This policy relates to redevelopment of the Canal Basin which will serve as a multi-functional green corridor linking the Town Centre to the countryside. This policy will not impact on the SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSS1</td>
<td>Open Space Provision</td>
<td>This policy sets out standards for the provision of new open space in new developments. This will help to maintain and enhance biodiversity and environmental quality and opportunity for nature conservation. There will be no impact on the Baston Fen SAC. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy sets out standards for the provision of new open space in new developments. This will help to maintain and enhance biodiversity and environmental quality and opportunity for nature conservation. There will be no impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy sets out standards for the provision of new open space in new developments. This will help to maintain and enhance biodiversity and environmental quality and opportunity for nature conservation. There will be no impact on the Rutland Water SPA. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSS2</td>
<td>Protecting Existing Open Spaces, Sports and Recreational Facilities</td>
<td>This policy aimed at protecting existing open space and natural areas, as well as the provision of new ones. This will help to improve the ecology and landscape setting including habitats like ancient and semi-natural woodland. This policy approach will have no impact on the Baston Fen SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy aimed at protecting existing open space and natural areas, as well as the provision of new ones. This will help to improve the ecology and landscape setting including habitats like ancient and semi-natural woodland. This policy approach will have no impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy aimed at protecting existing open space and natural areas, as well as the provision of new ones. This will help to improve the ecology and landscape setting including habitats like ancient and semi-natural woodland. This policy approach will have no impact on the Rutland Water SPA. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT1</td>
<td>Allotment Provision</td>
<td>This policy is aimed at protecting allotments against future loss to alternative development. This policy will have no impact on the Baston Fen SAC. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy is aimed at protecting allotments against future loss to alternative development. This policy will have no impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
<td>This policy is aimed at protecting allotments against future loss to alternative development. This policy will have no impact on the Rutland Water SPA. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. See comments under Spatial Strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS1</td>
<td>New Housing Provision</td>
<td>This policy relates to the provision of new homes to meet the future needs of residents in Grantham. New housing will be provided on appropriate sustainable and deliverable brownfield sites and appropriate greenfield sites. This will help to protect the existing open spaceValley. This policy will have less significant impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to the provision of new homes to meet the future needs of residents in Grantham. New housing will be provided on appropriate sustainable and deliverable brownfield sites and appropriate greenfield sites. This will help to protect the existing open space and Valley. This policy will have less significant impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to the provision of new homes to meet the future needs of residents in Grantham. New housing will be provided in an open countryside some distance from Grantham. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. Therefore, this policy will not have a significant impact on the SAC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NWQ1</td>
<td>Developing Sustainable New Neighbourhoods (North)</td>
<td>This policy provides a framework for the delivery of a mixed use urban extension. The NWQ1 is distant from the Baston Fen SAC. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy as set out above. This policy will not impact the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy provides a framework for the delivery of a mixed use urban extension. The NWQ1 is distant from the Baston Fen SAC. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy as set out above. This policy will not impact the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy provides a framework for the delivery of a mixed use urban extension. The NWQ1 is distant from the Rutland Water SPA and will therefore not impact the SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SQ1</td>
<td>Developing Sustainable New Neighbourhoods (South)</td>
<td>This policy provides a framework for the delivery of a mixed use urban extension. The SQ1 is distant from the Baston Fen SAC and will therefore not impact the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy provides a framework for the delivery of a mixed use urban extension. The SQ1 is distant from the Baston Fen SAC and will therefore not impact the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy provides a framework for the delivery of a mixed use urban extension. The SQ1 is distant from the Rutland Water SPA and will therefore, not impact the SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EM1</td>
<td>Existing Employment Areas</td>
<td>This policy relates to protecting existing locally important employment sites from alternative development. The SAC is not located near Grantham. The policy will not, therefore, impact on the Baston Fen SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to protecting existing locally important employment sites from alternative development. The SAC is not located near Grantham. The policy will not, therefore, impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to protecting existing locally important employment sites from alternative development. The SPA is not located near Grantham. The policy will not, therefore, impact on the Rutland Water SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EM2</td>
<td>New Employment Allocations</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Grantham. The SAC is not located near to Grantham. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy as set out above. This policy will not, therefore, impact on the Baston Fen SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Grantham. The SAC is not located near to Grantham. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. This policy will not, therefore, impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC.</td>
<td>This policy allocates employment land in Grantham. The SPA is not located near to Grantham. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. This policy will not, therefore, have an impact on the Rutland Water SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baston Fen SAC</td>
<td>Grimsthorpe SAC</td>
<td>Rutland Water SPA</td>
<td>Barnack Hills and Holes SAC</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>HE1</td>
<td>Townscape Character</td>
<td>This policy sets out a framework for the preservation and enhancing of townscape character of Grantham. This includes the settings, historic fabric and cultural heritage of both designated and undeclared assets. This policy will not, therefore, impact on the Baston Fen SAC.</td>
<td>This policy sets out a framework for the preservation and enhancing of townscape character of Grantham. This includes the settings, historic fabric and cultural heritage of both designated and undeclared assets. This policy will not, therefore, impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC.</td>
<td>This policy sets out a framework for the preservation and enhancing of townscape character of Grantham. This includes the settings, historic fabric and cultural heritage of both designated and undeclared assets. This policy will not, therefore, impact on the Rutland Water SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HE2</td>
<td>Development affecting Heritage Assets of Local interest</td>
<td>This policy seeks to retain and re-use heritage assets which are not statutorily listed but are of local interest and importance. This policy approach will, therefore, not impact on the Baston Fen SAC.</td>
<td>This policy seeks to retain and re-use heritage assets which are not statutorily listed but are of local interest and importance. This policy approach will, therefore, not impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC.</td>
<td>This policy seeks to retain and re-use heritage assets which are not statutorily listed but are of local interest and importance. This policy approach will, therefore, not impact on the Rutland Water SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HE3</td>
<td>The Setting of St. Wulffram’s Church</td>
<td>This policy relates to the setting of St Wulffram’s Church. This will have no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to the setting of St Wulffram’s Church. This will have no impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to the setting of St Wulffram’s Church. This will have no impact on the Rutland Water SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HE4</td>
<td>Protecting and Enhancing the Setting of Belton House and Park</td>
<td>This policy sets out a framework for protecting and enhancing the settings of Belton House and Park. This will have no impact on the SAC.</td>
<td>This policy sets out a framework for protecting and enhancing the settings of Belton House and Park. This will have no impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC.</td>
<td>This policy sets out a framework for protecting and enhancing the settings of Belton House and Park. This will have no impact on the Rutland Water SPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HE5</td>
<td>Public Realm</td>
<td>This policy relates to the preservation and enhancing of good quality public realm. This will have no impact on the Baston Fen SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to the preservation and enhancing of good quality public realm. This will have no impact on the Grimsthorpe SAC.</td>
<td>This policy relates to the preservation and enhancing of good quality public realm. This will have no impact on the Rutland Water SPA.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>